

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

Summary Minutes

January 16, 2003

Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room

SPU Operations Control Center

2700 Airport Way South

Seattle, WA

Members and Alternates Present: Bruce Bachen (SPU), Tim Romanski (USFWS), Bill Robinson (Trout Unlimited), Frank Urabeck (NW Marine Trade Association), Steve Foley (WDFW), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Dennis Moore (Muckleshoot Tribe), Tom Sibley (NMFS)

Other Participants: Chuck Johnson (WDFW), Brodie Antipa (WDFW), Joan Thomas (WDFW), John R. Skalski (UW), Dan Schindler (UW) and Paul Faulds (SPU)

I) Call to order

Bruce called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

II) Approval of agenda

Members unanimously approved the agenda.

III) Meeting minutes review and approval from December 12th

Steve asked Paul to send the draft minutes to Dave Seiler. He also asked for a minor change to his statement concerning coho numbers in the Cedar River.

IV) Cedar River sockeye hatchery program

Statistical review of the adult sockeye sampling program by John R. Skalski

Bruce introduced John Skalski to the committee. John provided members with a summary of his conclusions from the report Statistical Review of the Cedar River Sockeye Sampling Program. He described his role was to evaluate the sampling design used to collect otoliths from sockeye carcasses on the Cedar River from 1995 to the present and to offer guidance for future collection efforts. He then reported his findings to the committee.

Zooplankton research in Lake Washington presented by Dan Schindler

Paul introduced Dan Schindler from the University of Washington (UW). Dan described his work as carrying on the research of Dr. Edmondson, former professor of zoology at the UW. Dr. Edmondson spent many decades studying the biology and chemistry of Lake Washington. Dan described a key part of his work is the development of a user-friendly database for storing and managing the data collected at the sampling sites on Lake Washington.

Funding research and monitoring programs 2003 – 2004

Paul provided members with a handout that listed potential projects under the sockeye monitoring program and interim mitigation for chinook, coho, and steelhead.

V) Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead Steelhead Genetics Proposal by WDFW

Bruce opened up this item by briefly stating where the committee was regarding the proposal. He noted the department put a lot of effort in the development of the proposal and it is ready for consideration for funding. Bill R. motioned to support the multiple year genetic work. Bruce asked if that was for the entire amount. Bill nodded. Frank seconded the motion. Members discussed the proposal. Frank asked why the predation study presented by Dave Seiler at the last meeting was not included in the genetics proposal. Frank noted the motion should be amended to include the statement that WDFW will conduct the predator population study. He added that if the steelhead run goes extinct this information will be needed before other options are considered.

Frank withdrew his amendment based on his understanding that the Department would conduct the predator study in the Cedar River in 2003.

Bruce reread the motion to allocate \$82,400 per year for two years for the steelhead genetic work. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adult sockeye entry timing and distribution proposal

Steve asked that more details be provided with regards to Tom Quinn's proposal and WDFW involvement in the tag recovery effort in the Cedar River. He indicated that he would discuss the proposal with Jim Ames.

Fall and spring hydroacoustic-midwater trawl survey for assessing the abundance of sockeye salmon presmolts

Bruce noted that fall and spring hydroacoustic sampling was done last year and we need to keep in touch with Dave Beauchamp for future efforts.

Predator abundance in Lake Washington (PI: Beauchamp)

Dennis stated that the Muckleshoot Tribe has conducted predator surveys in Lake Washington over the last few years and it has cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. He added that the tribe would provide comments on Dave's proposal.

Evaluation of fish colonization above Landsburg

Bruce briefly described how two proposals were developed for this effort. Tom Quinn had provided a Sea Grant Pre-Proposal that was designed to look at the distribution and movement of adults above the Landsburg Dam. Peter Kiffney provided a companion proposal that is designed to examine ecosystem effects of salmon recolonization.

VI) Public comment (scheduled for 11:30)

There were no public comments.

Cedar River chinook and sockeye counts – WDFW

Steve noted that surveys last week counted about 1,100 sockeye. One Tribal crew surveyed from the slide down and they had 25 fish (24 at slide and 1 below). The other

Tribal crew had about 400 from Lions club to the slide and we (WDFW) had about 700 from the dam to Lions club.

Hatchery Update - WDFW

Brodie noted they met the egg take goal this year by collecting just over 18 million eggs and the hatchery experienced acceptable egg loss of 6.75%.

Lake Washington Chinook Salmon Workshop

Paul noted the chinook workshop was coming up and referred members to the agenda, which contained the web site for the workshop.

Fry trapping agreement for 2003-2004 with WDFW

Paul noted that he had finished the fry trap agreement and it was being reviewed by WDFW. Chuck noted that additional funding for trapping in 2004 was not secure.

Final BY2002 hatchery marking plan

Paul provided members with an updated marking plan for the hatchery. It had been revised based on adjustments to emergent timing at the hatchery.

Lake Ozette sockeye

Paul provided members with a newspaper article on Lake Ozette sockeye. He was in contact with the tribal biologist named in the article with the goal of exchanging research.

Public use of the river adjacent to Landsburg Park

Bruce described the challenges with the public using the river adjacent to the park. He asked if staff from WDFW or NMFS might want to help define rules for water activities adjacent to the park, now that fish are able to get past the aqueduct crossing. Frank noted the Cedar River Council has very active individuals involved in the river and suggested that an educational presentation regarding this issue would be beneficial.

VII) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM